

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



CITRUS ABANDONED ACRES

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September 23, 2010

Abandoned Acreage up 3 percent

In combination with the latest commercial citrus tree inventory, abandoned citrus groves were also identified. Experienced agricultural personnel evaluated tree condition and made an overall assessment of citrus groves contained in the maps of Florida citrus growing areas. The amount of abandoned citrus acreage is updated and published on an annual basis to keep pace with constant changes. Some citrus groves previously identified as abandoned have been removed and destroyed. Additional groves are added each year when they meet the abandoned grove criteria.

A grove is considered abandoned when the following conditions exist: no production care during the past 2 years, no weed control or grass mowing, livestock present, weather damage, neglected trees that are not economically feasible to maintain, or no commercial harvest during the last 2 seasons. In some cases, property owners or caretakers were contacted and questioned regarding future use of their citrus groves.

The Indian River District continues to lead with 51,196 abandoned acres, or 36 percent of the total. Increases in total abandoned acreage occurred in the Northern and Southern areas. Fourteen of the counties have more abandoned grove acres and 11 counties had an increase in understory acres. Results of this survey include 4,854 understory acres comprised of pine stands and forested areas with abandoned, unintentional, or feral citrus trees scattered under their canopy. These acres pose a potential threat as a possible source of pests and diseases.

Florida Citrus: Abandoned Acreage by County and Survey Year

County	Parcels			Abandoned									
				Grove			Understory			Total			
	2008	2009 ¹	2010	2008	2009 ¹	2010	2008	2009 ¹	2010	2008	2009 ¹	2010	
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	
Brevard	490	596	589	5,873	6,056	5,763	70	70	70	5,943	6,126	5,833	
Charlotte	201	194	191	2,634	2,481	2,606	-	-	-	2,634	2,481	2,606	
Citrus	10	11	11	192	175	120	-	27	90	192	202	210	
Collier	29	27	22	522	430	338	-	-	-	522	430	338	
DeSoto	493	488	388	5,473	5,343	3,498	-	-	-	5,473	5,343	3,498	
Glades	33	35	46	557	565	769	-	-	-	557	565	769	
Hardee	469	446	410	3,394	3,195	3,152	-	-	-	3,394	3,195	3,152	
Hendry	400	416	434	12,259	12,399	12,575	37	37	37	12,296	12,436	12,612	
Hernando	46	51	49	839	933	909	-	11	37	839	944	946	
Highlands	186	194	200	2,105	2,147	2,393	-	-	-	2,105	2,147	2,393	
Hillsborough		522	577	3,952	4,358	5,217	-	-	-	3,952	4,358	5,217	
Indian River	786	792	724	13,781	13,234	11,947	-	-	124	13,781	13,234	12,071	
Lake	782	809	928	9,290	9,766	10,230	754	1,242	2,287	10,044	11,008	12,517	
Lee	107	109	110	887	897	825	-	-	-	887	897	825	
Manatee	324	336	348	3,067	3,226	3,460	-	-	-	3,067	3,226	3,460	
Marion		26	57	212	213	310	-	82	573	212	295	883	
Martin	278	387	451	11,114	14,827	17,541	-	-	-	11,114	14,827	17,541	
Okeechobee	56	87	100	1,092	1,998	1,984	-	-	-	1,092	1,998	1,984	
Orange	261	273	297	2,530	2,621	3,197	-	49	100	2,530	2,670	3,297	
Osceola	322	360	348	2,860	3,315	3,036	-	-	237	2,860	3,315	3,278	
Palm Beach	176	169	176	5,857	5,618	5,936	-	-	-	5,857	5,618	5,936	
Pasco	224	236	227	2,158	2,160	2,085	243	271	316	2,401	2,431	2,401	
Polk	1,329	1,343	1,266	11,640	11,712	10,791	19	118	315	11,659	11,830	11,106	
Putnam	14	12	13	117	98	101	-	-	-	117	98	101	
St. Lucie	750	911	1,019	24,737	26,807	27,321	548	548	548	25,285	27,355	27,869	
Sarasota	22	18	18	347	132	131	-	-	-	347	132	131	
Seminole	95	93	79	762	646	483	-	-	8	762	646	491	
Volusia	175	192	199	1,538	1,707	1,727	-	-	112	1,538	1,707	1,839	
Others ²	10	11	10	80	85	71	-	-	-	80	85	71	
Total	8,597	9,144	9,287	129,869	137,144	138,516	1,671	2,455	4,854	131,540	139,599	143,370	

⁻ Represents zero.

¹ 2009 data revised.

² Alachua and Pinellas counties.

Florida Citrus: Abandoned Acreage by Production Area and Survey Year

	Parcels			Abandoned									
Production Area				Grove			Understory			Total			
	2008	2009 ¹	2010	2008	2009 ¹	2010	2008	2009 ¹	2010	2008	2009 ¹	2010	
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	
Indian River	2,103	2,474	2,543	45,609	50,847	50,412	548	548	784	46,157	51,395	51,196	
Northern Area	1,595	1,658	1,819	16,664	17,852	18,728	997	1,682	3,410	17,661	19,534	22,138	
Central Area	1,879	1,936	1,849	18,285	18,571	17,511	89	188	623	18,374	18,759	18,134	
Western Area	1,800	1,813	1,743	16,291	16,311	15,500	-	-	-	16,291	16,311	15,500	
Southern Area	1,220	1,263	1,333	33,020	33,563	36,365	37	37	37	33,057	33,600	36,402	
Total	8,597	9,144	9,287	129,869	137,144	138,516	1,671	2,455	4,854	131,540	139,599	143,370	

⁻ Represents zero.

¹ 2009 data revised.

